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U.S. Prefers No Ransom in Cash

WASHINGTON, Oct. 10 (UPI). — Administration officials were understood today to be hoping that the ransom payments for Cuban invasion prisoners would be made in food and medical supplies rather than cash.

They do not want this country to contribute much foreign exchange which Cuban Premier Fidel Castro could use to purchase key industrial items or further his military buildup.

For the second day in a row, Administration officials waited for what they hoped would be the successful conclusion of the negotiations between New York attorney James B. Donovan and the Castro regime. Donovan is representing the families of the 1,113 prisoners who were captured during the abortive Bay of Pigs invasion last year.

THERE WERE REPORTS that the Kennedy administration itself was prepared to help finance part of the ransom. Senators Williams, (R-Del.) and Stennis (D-Miss.), said they are opposed to the government's paying any ransom and expressed the hope the reports were incorrect.

Stennis said that as a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee he hadn't heard anything about the government putting up ransom money.